

# Palmetto

The Official Journal of the South Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

## PARTISAN



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## The Swindle at Gettysburg: LINCOLN AND THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

By Paul C. Graham, Editor-In-Chief

On November 19, 1863, Abraham Lincoln delivered his most revered oration at the dedication of the *Soldiers National Cemetery* at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. As a work of English prose, The Gettysburg Address has few equals in the American literary canon. Eloquent and succinct, it has inspired Americans with almost religious awe for generations. It is one of the few instances of American oratory that has achieved a status akin to holy writ. It has become a kind of Nicene Creed that defines American orthodoxy. It is what "real Americans" believe about their historical origins, their foundational ideals, and their collective mission.

As the sesquicentennial of the Gettysburg Address came and went, a throng of articles, editorials, and commentaries poured forth from news outlets from all across the fruited plains in praise of Lincoln's oration, reminding us of the significant influence that these words continue to play on the American psyche. The words are certainly lofty, stirring, and enchanting, but such considerations only address questions of *form* and not of *substance*. The question that was never breached during the anniversary of Lincoln's speech was whether or not the words were true.



Lincoln, cont. on page 6

## New member of United Daughters of the Confederacy "makes history"



On December 14, 2013, after producing documentation of her blood relation to a Confederate Veteran and submitting an application for membership, Ms Georgia Benton of Savannah, Georgia, was accepted and inducted into Savannah Chapter 2, United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC). In this respect, Ms Benton was no different than any other UDC applicant, past or present. The requirements for membership are the same for everyone. There is really nothing "historical" about this event except for the extraordinary attention that it received.

The coverage of this Ms Benton's induction from the hometown news-

History, cont. on page 7



### What's Inside...

<i>Standing Guard</i> , Commander's message .....	2
<i>Memorial to Cindy Socia</i> , by Jeff O'Cain .....	3
<i>Forgetting their Ancestors</i> , by Raphael Walburg-Zeil .....	5
<i>2014 SC Division State Convention</i> .....	8

*Happy New Year to All...*

# STANDING GUARD

Mark Simpson  
SC Division Commander



Looking back over the past 3 ½ years and the opportunity and privilege with which you men of the South Carolina Division have honored me as your Division Commander, I wish to express my most sincere heartfelt appreciation for the trust you have placed upon me.

During my tenure, we have accomplished several new tasks and developed a new business platform, all with the hope and purpose of improving our communication system and overall management of the SC Division. The new systems have been difficult and challenging to some, while others have embraced them with ease and a positive outlook. If we are to prevail as the premier Confederate Heritage organization in the future, I believe it is essential that we adapt to a changing culture and environment in America and step up the standards of expectation for all of us in the SCV. To achieve such success will require continued change in how we present ourselves, our mission, our strategy and marketing concept to those around us. The mission (charge) remains unchanged. Who we are and what we believe and teach will not change, however, operating in the 21st century and utilizing 19th century methods will, in my opinion, bring about an eventual demise for the Sons of Confederate Veterans. We need to be smarter than our opposition and we must do a better job in capturing public support if our sons and grandsons will see us into the Bi-Centennial of 2060.

I have no grand illusions that this will be a simple task; in fact it will never be easy. But if we continue to build a quality organization of dedicated men, willing to take upon themselves new challenges and commitments for improvement, we have a better chance of prevailing in the years to come. In the end, I believe we can be better tomorrow than we were yesterday and, while we may not win the "hearts and minds" of all or even a majority of Americans, silencing their "guns" and swaying their opinions will be quite sufficient to win the day.

God bless each of you and your families and may the Presence and Peace of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit enrich your lives and homes during this new year 2014.

**Mark A. Simpson, Commander South Carolina Division  
Sons of Confederate Veterans**

Paul C. Graham - Editor-In-Chief • Melinda Moseley - Art Director/Designer  
Gene Hogan - Associate Editor • Raphael Waldburg-Zeil - European  
Associate Editor

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# MUSTER

Ken Thrasher  
SC Division Lt. Commander



Compatriots,

With winter upon us, I hope this communication finds everyone doing well. Christmas and the New Year it is a good time to reflect upon what your Camps have accomplished during this past year. Did you meet all your goals? Did you have fundraising events out in your communities? And last but not least, did your Camp grow in membership?

As everyone is aware, we have a retention of membership problem. We, the Sons of Confederate Veterans in South Carolina, have been losing members every year for several years. I am not going to pretend that I have the answer to this problem; I don't think anyone has the answer. However, I am asking each member of the SC Division to recruit or bring back into your camp at least one person next year. This is not hard to do. Everyone has family members and/or friends that could be members. Tell them what we do, tell them about our great monthly speakers, tell them about the activities that your camp does to further "The Charge".

In closing, I am asking that you work with me to bring new blood and new ideas into the Division. If we don't do this, WILL THERE BE A CAMP IN MY TOWN OR EVEN A SOUTH CAROLINA DIVISION? By failing to grow, we will fade into history, and that is what our detractors are hoping for.

I would like to wish all members and their families a safe and happy New Year.

Let us work together to grow and to follow the "Charge".

**Keeping the Flag unfurled**

**Ken Thrasher, Lt. Commander, SC Division**

# FROM THE EDITOR

Paul C. Graham  
Editor-In-Chief

I hope you will enjoy this issue of the *Palmetto Partisan Journal*. There is a lot of interesting and informative information on these pages which we hope will forward the cause and help us better live the charge—*boldly and without apology!*

I would like to personally welcome our new Artistic Director, Melinda Moseley, to the *Partisan* team. She comes to us highly recommended and I have really enjoyed working with her. Thank you, Melinda, for your hard work! We look forward to working with you!

In closing, I'd like to invite you to send me any feedback that you might have regarding this publication—negative or positive, it mattereth not. My email address is [scdiveditor@gmail.com](mailto:scdiveditor@gmail.com). This address can also be used to submit articles and/or announcements for future editions. Heck, just drop me a line for any ol' reason. I'd love to hear from you!

**Warmest Confederate regards,**

**Paul C. Graham**



THIS ISSUE IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF CINDY SOCIA.



Hello to all my fellow Compatriots,  
You know, it is very easy to criticize others in leadership positions when we find things do not always go our way. I know, I have been guilty of it myself. But what we have to ask ourselves is this question: What kind of cross or burden are they carrying of which we are unaware? Is there something that we might be able to do to help instead of criticizing? It happens in all walks of life and in all arenas: church, work, clubs, etc.



I found this quote by Pres. Teddy Roosevelt that I thought might be a good message for us on this subject:

"It is not the critic who counts, nor the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly...who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly."

I guess the best way to keep us in check on these matters is to just sit back and ponder how blessed we are to not be the ones to have to make these hard decisions. We need to be praying for those that carry the burdens of difficult decision making.

The beginning of a new year is always a good time to reflect on just how blessed we really are. Psalm 103: 3-5 is known as "Five Kernels of Thanksgiving." I hope they speak to you all:

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies; Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's." (Emphasis added.)

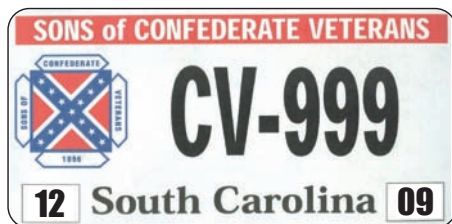
So, we have a God who forgives, heals, redeems, shows us loving kindness and tender mercies and satisfies our hunger with good things.

*Happy New Year to you all!*

**Your Brother in Christ,**

**Ken Temples, South Carolina Division Chaplain**

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## A MEMORIAL TO PALMETTO PARTISAN ART DIRECTOR

*Cindy Baldwin Socia*

**She Made Us  
All Look  
A Lot Better!**



By Jeff O'Cain, PPJ Editor, 2006-2008

A kinder and more happy-to-see-you person you'll rarely meet, Cindy Baldwin Socia always had a pleasant word and smile for everyone she met.

I came to know Cindy via common friends in 1999 and saw her at various social events over the years. We talked some printing shop talk and about her skills as a professional graphic artist.

In January 2002 we needed to resurrect the Division newsletter which had been neglected for several years. I asked then Division Commander Max Jackson if we could publish one to support the upcoming Confederate Memorial Day and the Division convention. He approved and I took off to create a suitable publication. Having known of Cindy's talents as a graphic artist, I asked her to help me design a print ready layout of the newsletter...for a small fee of course! After all, her skills would make for a much better color publication than anything I could do.

It was then designed, printed, mailed and received warmly by the Division membership. Politics ensued and we had erratic publishing until the spring of 2006 when the Division Communication Initiative was established with additional Division funding. New Commander Randy Burbage asked that we reestablish a quality newsletter publication, and I agreed to help if we hired a professional graphic artist. Randy concurred and Cindy was my first choice. She took on the task of creating a first class unique image that has become the standard template for the PPJ ever since. She oversaw the graphic design of ever PPJ from June 2006 to July 2013. And she did one hell of a great job!

During the years she also offered her graphic skills to a myriad of important SCV graphics and publications: Stephen Dill Lee Institute ads, SC Division Sesquicentennial Brochure and others.

Born in Oklahoma, Cindy actually knew little to nothing about the Confederate Cause or its heritage or even much about The South. Simply put, she quickly mastered the graphic flavor of all things Confederate with class and style. Her talents and fine dedicated work will be missed. She "mothered" the PPJ and helped each successive Editor stay the course with its graphic and design continuity, an important standard reflected in the PPJ's numerous national awards for excellence. In 2007 Cindy received the Army of Northern Virginia Ladies Appreciation Medal at the Mt. Pleasant convention.

Sadly and tragically, Cindy unexpectedly passed away on August 25, 2013. She was 56 years old.

**Thank you, Cindy, for making us all look  
a whole lot better! We will miss you!**

# THE GUARDIAN REPORT

Steve L. Douglas  
Guardian Committee Chairman



I am brought to memory of a story in a book from my great grandfather. The book, *Under Both Flags*, published in 1896, contains stories of their experiences during the war from the veterans themselves. This particular story was witnessed by a young Confederate private. Here is that soldier's story in his own words:

*I think that one of the saddest incidents of the war which I witnessed was after the battle of Gettysburg. Off on the outskirts, seated on the ground, with his back to a tree, was a soldier, dead. His eyes were riveted on some*

*object held tightly clasped in his hands. As we drew nearer we saw that it was an ambrotype of two small children. Man though I was, hardened through those long years to carnage and bloodshed, the sight of that man who looked on his children for the last time in this world, who, way off in a secluded spot had rested himself against a tree, that he might feast his eyes on his little loves, brought tears to my eyes which I could not restrain had I wanted. There were six of us in the crowd, and we all found great lumps gathering in our throats, and mist coming before our eyes which almost blinded us. We stood looking at him for some time. I was thinking of my wife and baby I had left at home, and wondering how soon, in the mercy of God, she would be left a widow, and my baby a fatherless boy. We looked at each other and instinctively seemed to understand our thoughts. Not a word was spoken, but we dug a grave and laid the poor fellow to rest with his children's picture clasped over his heart. Over his grave, on the tree against which he was sitting, I inscribed the words: Somebody's Father, July 3, 1863*

Like so many other thousands, this soldier's grave was lost even before the war ended. His children, grandchildren, or great grandchildren had no place to visit, pay their respects, or ponder about his existence on earth. That is why the Guardian Program is so important, to guard and protect the Confederate soldiers' graves that remain. Do your part to preserve our heritage!

For more information on the Guardian Program visit the SC Division website at [scscv.com](http://scscv.com) or contact Steve Douglas at 803-854-2103 or [dougfam001@msn.com](mailto:dougfam001@msn.com).

# Karen Stokes Confederate Historian



By Clyde N. Wilson

An outstanding Confederate historian has appeared quietly on the South Carolina scene--Karen Stokes, who has published five worthy books in less than four years, with more on the way. Ms. Stokes's experience as an archivist among the manuscripts of the South Carolina Historical Society has taught her what many of today's prestigious historians have forgotten--the importance of primary sources in telling the truth of history. She relies on history as

it was lived by the people of the time, in their own words, and not on biased interpretations presented by alleged "experts."

Here is a comment by a distinguished historian about her first book, *Faith, Valor, and Devotion: The Civil War Letters of William Porcher DuBose*, edited with W. Eric Emerson and published by the University of South Carolina Press in 2010: "These letters, skillfully transcribed, introduced, and annotated, give a rich picture of what 'faith, valor, and devotion' meant to the South Carolinians who steadfastly endured as great a sacrifice and suffering as any large group of Americans ever have." DuBose was a young seminarian, described by Ms. Stokes as a "kind of saintly genius," who served unflinchingly as a combat officer and a chaplain in the Confederate army and later became a prominent theologian.

"I've been very fortunate in working with many historical documents of South Carolina," says Ms. Stokes, "and found myself particularly interested in those from the Confederate period, a time of great struggle, sacrifice, heroism, passion and tragedy." Among her other books are *South Carolina Civilians in Sherman's Path: Stories of Courage Amid Civil War Destruction*, and *A Confederate Englishman: The Civil War Letters of Henry Wemyss Feilden*, also edited with Emerson. Feilden ran the blockade to fight for the Confederacy and while at it found a South Carolina bride.

Most recently published is her account of *The Immortal 600: Surviving Civil War Charleston and Savannah*. There have been several books about the 600 Confederate officers who were placed by the Union army in front of their heavy artillery to prevent Confederate replies to their brutal shelling of the civilians of Charleston, but Ms. Stokes's treatment is perhaps the most comprehensive--tracing the horrible experiences of the 600 after their period in Charleston.

"I am interested in the whole truth being told about South Carolina history and the War Between the States," says the author. "Having been immersed in so many letters and other documents of the time, I believe I have gained an understanding that lends some authenticity to my fiction writing." She is referring to her novel, *Belles: A Carolina Love Story*, about Confederate women and the homefront, published in 2012.

Ms. Stokes's incredible productivity will not be slacking off. She has two more Confederate novels completed, several historical works on the way, and often gives public talks. In these times of officially hostile to everything Southern, it is remarkable that such a truly outstanding historian has emerged. Among other things, it testifies to the intrinsic appeal of Confederate history, which will never be completely suppressed as long as Western Civilization exists.

All of the books mentioned are listed on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) and are also available on Kindle.

CLYDE WILSON IS EMERITUS DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, FOUNDER OF THE STEPHEN D. LEE INSTITUTE, AND A COMPATRIOT OF THE COL. OLAN M. DANTZLER CAMP.



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# FORGETTING THEIR ANCESTORS



Colonel August Carl Buchel

By Raphael Waldburg-Zeil

Among the many important tasks of the Europe Camp 1612 is to mark and to honor the graves of Confederate veterans in the Old World. Unfortunately, many descendants are indifferent or even opposed to honoring their Confederate ancestors. I have experience with two such cases.

The first is that of Baron Robert von Massow, 43rd Battalion, Virginia Cavalry (Mosby's Rangers). His grave site in Germany is virtually unknown today. After having offered the family an official memorial stone and a cross, they made it quite clear that they were not wanted. Are you speechless? Recently, however, Baron von Massow got a small memorial marker in the Confederate section of the Spring Hill Cemetery in Harrodsburg, Kentucky, thanks to the private initiative of a Southern lady, but his grave in Germany remains bare.

The next case is even worse. August Carl Buchel was a veteran of the Mexican War of 1848, a Colonel in the Texas Militia in 1862, and a CS Army Brigadier in 1864. He was killed that same year at Pleasant Hill, Louisiana. Buchel was German-born, but lived and died as an American. He has a beautiful funerary monument in Austin, Texas. A large majority of his collateral descendants of

today are living in Germany and—believe it or not—they were disgusted that the Sons of Confederate Veterans wanted to honor him in his birthplace with a memorial stone. Even recruitment efforts among the family members were immediately refused because the “Confederates were a bunch of slaveholders!”

This is happening in Europe, which is a disgrace for sure, but they may have God's pardon for they are not Americans and, hence, do not know any better. They feel nothing for their ancestors who went to the New World and defended the noble cause of the American Revolution, the Constitution, and its legacy in the South.

What lesson can we extract from this sad, but nevertheless understandable fact?

In America today more and more often people are forced to explain—in the media, in private conversations, or in school—why as descendants of men who fought on the Confederate side they have nothing of which to be ashamed. Why can't they speak of their pride? Why are they constantly forced into a defensive dialogue? Why must they explain why the war was not about treason or slavery? Why are they not allowed to show their pride in having an ancestor who fought for the kind of country the Founding Fathers had intended?

Try to imagine the consequences of our children becoming unaware and losing any interest in their ancestry and heritage. How can we ensure that our children and grandchildren will feel that pride? Several years ago, Past CIC Sullivan asked in his farewell column in the *Confederate Veteran*: “Do you think the SCV will be still around in fifty years?” Well, that's not only up to recruitment and retain, it's up to us and to the education of our children and grandchildren. They will have to fly the bicentennial flag.

For God's sake, don't let our grandchildren become as distant to their ancestors as the above mentioned Confederate descendants in Europe are right now! That would be the definite end of the South and final victory of Reconstruction.

We must keep up working in positive plans for going on the offensive rather than remaining on the defensive—in the media, with town officials, in the schools, etc. Although the situation in South Carolina doesn't seem dramatic right now, SCV general membership numbers are decreasing and no guarantee exists that in the not-too-distant future our children and grandchildren will care for the memory of their ancestors.

What would our Confederate heroes in Heaven say? In the words of compatriot Calvin Johnson: “I say it's not whether we should be ashamed of our fathers and mothers of the Old Confederacy, I say it's a question of whether they should be ashamed of us.”

COMPATRIOT RAPHAEL WALDBURG-ZEIL IS THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATE EDITOR OF THE PALMETTO PARTISAN. HE IS A MEMBER OF EUROPE CAMP 1612 AND MCGOWAN CAMP 40, LAURENS, SC. (ASSOCIATE)



“Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation...”

As much as Lincoln may have wished it to be the case, no *new nation* was brought forth on the American continent “four score and seven years” before his speech. In 1776, thirteen English colonies, with thirteen different governing bodies, collectively declared the reasons why they thought it necessary to secede from their mother country. They were “held together” by common practical interest, nothing more. It was mutually beneficial to unite for the purposes of defense against an aggressor that meant to subjugate and deny them the “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” that they had come to enjoy. The colonists were not inventing something new; they were protecting something old, namely, their inherited rights as Englishmen.

*There was no formal agreement binding the colonies together in 1776. The Articles of Confederation would not be ratified by all of the colonies (now independent States), until 1781. But since that document expressly declared that each state retained (not gained) its “sovereignty, freedom, and independence,” one would be hard-pressed to call this union of States a “nation.”*

The United States Constitution—which terminated the compact created by the *Articles*—would not go into effect until March of 1787, when eleven of the thirteen States ratified it. If this created a nation—one and indivisible, as conceived by Lincoln—then the States that ratified it were ignorant of this crucial detail and would not have adopted it if they thought that it did.

Since there was no nation in 1776, 1781 or 1787, it logically follows that there was no “nation” when Lincoln’s speech was delivered in 1863 (or today, technically). There *had been* a voluntary union of States created by the *US Constitution*, but by 1861 this political arrangement—like the union created by the *Articles of Confederation*—had been terminated by the solemn conventions of eleven sovereign States.

The only thing that had occurred “four score and seven years” before Lincoln’s address was that thirteen independent political societies seceded from a government that they viewed as hostile to their way of life. Nothing more.

“conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal...”

This reference to equality in the Declaration of Independence of 1776, takes a five word phrase out of a document of over 1300 words and imbues it with meaning which cannot be derived from either the document itself or the historical context in which it was written. The notion of *equality* expressed by Mr. Jefferson has nothing to do with the modern doctrine of egalitarianism (i.e., the belief in the absolute political, social, and/or economic equality of all persons), but is rooted in *social contract theory*. Although an overview of this theory and how it is expressed in the *Declaration* is outside the scope of this article, we are certainly justified in saying that the *specificity* with which Jefferson justifies the separation of the American colonies from the King’s rule does not lend itself to interpret the proposition “all men are created equal” as a *general* pronouncement, but rather one rooted in a specific set of circumstances between *specific* parties.

Lincoln, of course, was not trying to convey anything that had to do with the actual *Declaration of Independence*. Lincoln evokes the language of the *Declaration of Independence* to give his imaginary nation an air of legitimacy. Since there was no nation conceived in the manner put forth by Lincoln—the proposition to which it was said to be dedicated is a moot point.

“Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure...”

Words matter. A “civil war,” by definition, is a war between two or more parties, each of whom are fighting to control a single government. The conflict over which Mr. Lincoln presided was not a war over who would govern the union of States; it was a war for independence on one side and a war of subjugation on the other. Because there was never a nation conceived in the way described by Lincoln, or dedicated to any abstract proposition such as equality, there was no legal or moral justification for Lincoln’s actions.

If the political entity created by the U.S. Constitution made a nation, then it could not logically be broken. A nation, by definition is *one thing*. However, the *Constitution* did *not* create a *nation*; it created a *union*. A *union*, by contrast is not one thing, but a plurality—two or more existing parties joined together by contract or agreement for specific purposes. By falsely describing the American union as a nation, Mr Lincoln could call the conflict a civil war without credulity and rhetorically justify holding it together by force. This reasoning, however brilliant, is patently false.

“...We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live... The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced... [and] gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain...”

After recounting the mythological birth of Lincoln’s nation, we must take courage as we look at the consequences of this false rendering of history. Its legacy is blood, rivers of blood—blood not shed to save a nation, but rather to create one by force of arms. Lincoln’s words are not only untrue, they make a mockery of the dead.

There was no nation to save and, therefore, there is no unfinished work for “us” to continue—at least not any work that existed prior to the war. Insofar as the war created a nation—albeit one born in blood and not in law or tradition—it also created a mission. But let us not allow ourselves to obscure the obvious: this mission is innovation and rooted in the nationalist myth. It has nothing whatsoever to do with the cause of 1776 or the union that was created by either the *Articles of Confederation* or the *U.S. Constitution*.

Once a swindle of this magnitude is accomplished, the guilty party is obliged to cover up the crime or suffer the consequences. The Gettysburg Address is certainly among the most eloquent alibis in history. As much as we may whence at the implication of such an assertion, we must not look the other way. These soldiers were not holy warriors fighting for either a nation or an ideal, they were victims. Their blood is only shed in vain if we refuse to call their slaughter what it was and cast blame where it belongs!

“that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

These are, by far, the most audacious statements of the address. A new birth of freedom for whom? A government of, by, and for what people? He doesn’t say. It is such a sweeping and grand statement that just about anything could be read into it—well, almost anything. Self government for the Southern people could not be read into this speech. In fact, they would be invaded, sacked, burned, pillaged, raped, and left in utter ruin because they had the temerity to assert the



right to govern themselves as their fathers had done in 1776.

American journalist, essayist, and magazine editor, H.L. Mencken (1880-1956) pointed out the absurdity of the doctrine expressed in the Gettysburg Address in a 1922 sketch on Lincoln. His words are as powerful now as they were then:

Think of the argument in it. Put it into the cold words of every-day. The doctrine is simply this: that the Union soldiers who died at Gettysburg sacrificed their lives to the cause of self-determination – that government of the people, by the people, for the people, should not perish from the earth. It is difficult to imagine anything more untrue. The Union soldiers in the battle actually fought against self-determination; it was the Confederates who fought for the right of their people to govern themselves.<sup>(1)</sup>

Lincoln Historian and Pulitzer Prize winner Garry Wills called the Gettysburg Address “a giant, if benign, swindle.” (Emphasis added.) Lincoln’s words, *although false*, accomplished a great many things in Mr. Wills’ estimation. They *created* a “different America” by *clearing* “the infected atmosphere of American history” and *cleansing* the Constitution. Best of all, Lincoln’s words *gave* the American people (some of them, at least) “a new past to live with that would change their future indefinitely...”<sup>(2)</sup>

The Gettysburg address was certainly a giant swindle, but it was not *benign*. It was and is a malignant and cancerous lie—a lie that cost untold numbers of deaths, an unaccountable loss of blood and treasure, and worst of all, continues to spread a diseased understanding of America.

Generations of Americans have already and will continue to stumble under the weight of this falsehood. Coupled with the violence that enforced this view of history, it forever destroyed the America of the founding generation. While many hold this to be a fortunate outcome, it came at the expense of the ability of normal, rational thinking Americans to reasonably access where they are, how they got there, and why we can’t “just get back to the Constitution.”

Admittedly, words can do a lot of things, but despite their many powers, words *cannot* transform a fib into a fact. They cannot change the past; cannot change the terms of a compact; and they most certainly *cannot create a nation out of thin air!*

Neither the court historians, nor the media, or even the might of the United States government can make the words of the Gettysburg Address correspond to reality. They can only perpetuate the lie; guard the lie; and ridicule those who attempt to expose the lie. Given recent events, the lie—at least for the moment—seems secure. Thankfully, truth is stronger than any lie. Sooner or later, *truth will out!* Sooner or later, the so-called *lost cause* will be found! Then the path will be cleared for an honest assessment of not only the *War for Southern Independence* (1861-1865), but of *all American history* currently obscured by Lincoln’s great swindle.

NOTES: (1) MENCKEN, H.L. “FIVE MEN AT RANDOM,” *PREJUDICES: THIRD SERIES*, 1922.

(2) WILLS, GARY. “WORDS THAT REMADE AMERICA,” *WWW.THEATLANTIC.COM*, NOVEMBER 23, 2011. (ACCESSED 26 NOVEMBER 2013)



paper was picked-up by the *Associated Press* and published in various news outlets across the country. In fact, according to a recent Google search, this article was reprinted or referenced over 1,400 times (news sites, blogs, etc.) on the internet!

Why? Was it because another Southern redneck descendant of a Confederate stepped forward to proclaim their ancestral pride by joining the SCV, the UDC or some other Confederate heritage organisation?

Nope. It was because Ms Georgia Benton happened to be of African descent. *This* was the “historical” event.

Apparently Ms Benton had not been informed that “black folks” are not supposed to join Confederate groups like the UDC. Apparently the UDC had not been informed that “black folks” should not allowed to join their group.

Maybe they did get the memo but didn’t care. Maybe they were more interested in the truth passed down from generation to generation than the absurd academic nonsense that passes for “Civil War” history. Maybe, just maybe, Ms Benton knows something that the neo-Yankee talking heads in the media do not.

According to *The Savannah Morning News*, Ms Benton is the great granddaughter of George W. Washington who was born March 31, 1845, on the McQueen Plantation in Sumter County, South Carolina. He was about 16 years old when he went off to war as the body servant of his 22 year old master, Lieutenant William Alexander McQueen. Lt. McQueen, the article goes on to say, commanded a cannon and crew of Garden’s Battery from Sumter. Ms Benton’s great grandfather served with Lt. McQueen for four long years. During this time they participated in several major battles of the war, three of which were the Battle of Sharpsburg, the Battle of Crater at Petersburg, Virginia and the Battle of Gettysburg.

“Very little is known about black confederate soldiers,” said Ms Benton, “so if I can be a starting point in letting the world know the history and making them aware that African-Americans have fought in every war in history, then I’m proud to stand up for my great-grandfather. I’m honored because he helped form the United States of America, he was a part of that movement and not too many people are aware of that. I’m standing here with honor and pride.”

Ms Benson did not “make history” at her induction to the UDC, dear reader, she simply embraced history—her own history—a history that is not supposed to be there, according to the “experts,” but is...

While it is true that the numbers of Black Confederates were rather small and their official status irregular at best, they were recognized as such by their compatriots, were welcomed at United Confederate Veterans reunions in the years following the war, and—at least in South Carolina—recognized as Confederate veterans by being awarded pensions for their service.

“My son tells me I’m a trailblazer,” continued Ms Benton, “because I was also involved in the community Civil Rights movement in Port Wentworth. So, trailblazing, making a difference, I guess it’s in my blood. It’s just something that you do.” We agree with her son and commend her for her bravery, her dedication to her family’s legacy, and her willingness to blaze some new trails in honour of her great grandfather.

It is our hope that she will inspire other Southerners whose ancestors contended for the cause of Southern independence—whether in Dixie or in exile and regardless of ethnicity—to join us in honouring our ancestors and see that *their history* is presented to future generations.

EDITOR’S NOTE: REFERENCES AND QUOTES IN THIS ARTICLE ARE EXTRACTED FROM KATIE MARTIN’S “UNITED DAUGHTERS OF CONFEDERACY MAKE HISTORY WITH INDUCTION.” (*SAVANNAH MORNING NEWS*, 14 DECEMBER 2013.)



# South Carolina Division

## Sons of Confederate Veterans

### 2014 State Convention

### March 28-29, 2014 – Florence, SC



The 2014 South Carolina Division Reunion will be held in Florence, SC, on March 28-29. The Pee Dee Rifles Camp, the hosting camp, has been busy planning and preparing for a great event. The convention site is the Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing Technology ([www.simt.com](http://www.simt.com)) located at 1951 Pisgah Road, Florence, SC, behind the campus of Florence Darlington Technical College. There are so many exciting things I would like to share but do not have room in this brief article. Two of the things that I would like to highlight are the reunion medal and the Friday Night Social.

The 2014 reunion medal is modeled after one issued at the United Confederate Veterans, South Carolina Division Reunion held in Charleston, SC, held May 10-13, 1899. I have had numerous comments asking why the flag is turned on such an angle. I simply do not know! We replicated the medal as accurately as possible updating the words for the 2014 reunion. It will be created by Mission Awards ([www.missionawards.com](http://www.missionawards.com)) of Grawn, MI. Special thanks to Mr. Dennis E Todd for allowing us to use his original medal as the template for this year's reunion medal.

The Friday Night Social will be held on the Ground of Trinity Health-care Staffing Group (1834 Sally Hills Farms Blvd, Florence, SC) from 6-9pm on Friday, March 28th. The menu will consist of Fried Fish/Shrimp, Low Country Boil and sides. You are in store for a special treat! Entertainment will be provided by Stan Clardy of Gray Note Productions. Stan is a well known 19th century musician, songwriter, author, playwright, actor and storyteller. Many of you will recognize him as he wrote and performed "Hunley Shine On", the only original song sang at the funeral of the H.L. Hunley Crew.

With your help, this could be one of the best conventions in recent years. All of the plans have been made. Now we need your support! Registrations can be found online at [www.scscv.com](http://www.scscv.com) or [www.peedeerifles.homestead.com](http://www.peedeerifles.homestead.com)

*See You There!*

**Ron York, Convention Planning Chair**



"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

*The Charge* is the official "Mission Statement of the Sons of Confederate Veterans"

*Lt. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee*

Commander General, United Confederate Veterans Reunion at New Orleans, 1906

The *Palmetto Partisan* is the official publication of the South Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

**January 2014**

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